

VERMONT

Voters in Vermont will elect a governor and attorney general this cycle. All 150 House seats will be on the ballot as well as all 30 Senate seats. Republicans are expected to maintain control of the Governor's Office. Democrats are expected to flip the Office of Attorney General and maintain control of the legislature.

Governor

Republican Nominee

Governor Phil Scott

Governor Phil Scott (R) was first elected in 2016 and is looking to serve secure a fourth twoyear term this November. Scott had been quiet about his re-election intentions until his announcement earlier this May and did not begin actively campaigning until after Labor Day. Scott served three terms as lieutenant governor of Vermont from 2011 to 2017 alongside Democratic Governor Peter Shumlin, making Vermont one of the few states to have a governor and lieutenant governor of different parties. He was a member of the Vermont State Senate from 2001 until 2010, representing Washington County.

His <u>platform</u> focuses on his accomplishments in the office, including stops to raise taxes. He also highlights his history of not engaging in negative campaigns against opponents, which he says signifies his desire to be a unifier.

Scott has pointed to the state's shallow labor pool has a common root cause to many issues in the state, including the housing shortage, and has reiterated his support for education in the trades and places workforce as the top challenge for Vermont.

Governor Scott has faced off with Democratic candidate Brenda Seigel in a handful of debates, where they have <u>clashed</u> on the most pressing challenges for Vermont and approaches to issues such as housing, workforce development, and the opioid crisis.

Scott has been quite popular in his state. He will likely secure a fourth term come November. An April <u>poll</u> conducted by the University of New Hampshire put his approval rating at 57 percent; 50 percent of Vermont voters, including 49 percent of Democrats, said he deserved to be reelected. The Cook Political Report and Sabato's Crystal Ball have both rated this race as solid Republican.

Trivia: On Thursday night's during the summer, Governor Scott can usually be found at Barre's Thunder Road where he has raced the #14 car since 1992.